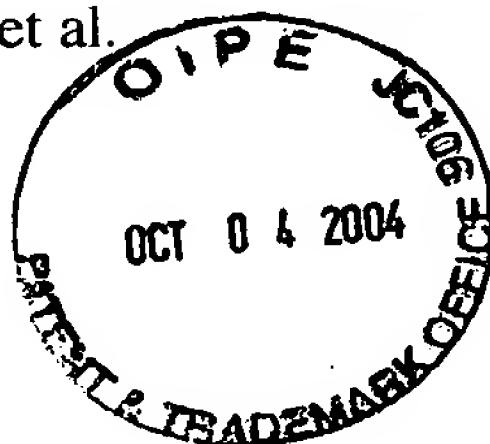


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Christian Knöpfle et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/921,233 )  
Group Art Unit: 3732 )  
Filed: August 1, 2001 )  
Examiner: Philogene, Pedro )  
For: SELF-RETAINING IMPLANT AND A DEVICE FOR )  
SECURING THE IMPLANT )

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 97 and in compliance with Rule 56, Applicant hereby makes of record the item listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A. A copy of the listed item is **not** enclosed. This item does not disclose the inventive concepts claimed in the subject application.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is **not** being submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application and prior to the mailing of a first Office Action and, therefore, a check in the amount of \$180.00 is also enclosed to cover the necessary filing fees. However, if there should be any additional fees associated with the filing of this document, please charge it to Deposit Account No. 08-2789.

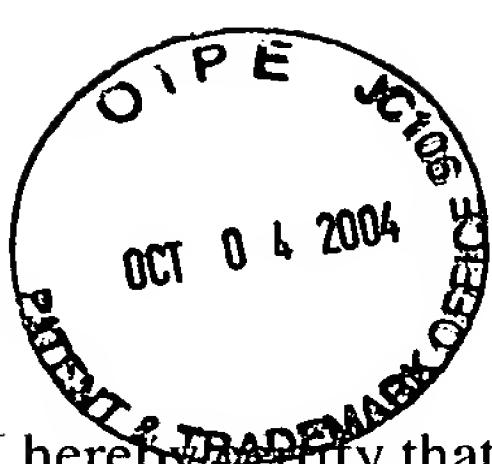
Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**

**William H. Honaker, Registration No. 31,623**  
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite #101  
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Enclosures:

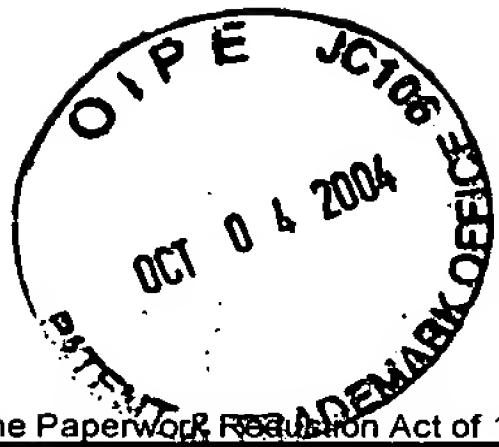
PTO/SB08A with 1 Cited Reference



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **October 1, 2004**.

Christine M. Wolfe  
Christine M. Wolfe



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Substitute for form 1449/PTO**

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/921,233
Filing Date	August 1, 2001
First Named Inventor	Knöpfle, et al.
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Philogene, Pedro

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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